

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION  
(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark  
Office  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C.20231  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing:

13 April 2000 (13.04.00)

International application No.:

PCT/US98/20478

Applicant's or agent's file reference:

International filing date:

05 October 1998 (05.10.98)

Priority date:

Applicant:

WILLIAMSON, Warren, N. et al

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International preliminary Examining Authority on:

04 May 1999 (04.05.99)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer:

J. Zahra

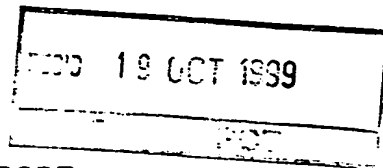
Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US98/20478	International filing date (day/month/year) 05 OCTOBER 1998	Priority date (day/month/year) NONE
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(6): A61B 5/103; and US Cl.: 600/562		
Applicant WILLIAMSON, WARREN N.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of      sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  04 MAY 1999	Date of completion of this report  03 SEPTEMBER 1999
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer  MAX HINDENBURG
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-3130

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/20478

**I. Basis of the report**

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain*

☒ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-67 , as originally filed.

pages NONE , filed with the demand.

pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

pages \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the claims, Nos. 1-146 , as originally filed.

Nos. NONE , as amended under Article 19.

Nos. NONE , filed with the demand.

Nos. NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1-45 , as originally filed.

sheets/fig NONE , filed with the demand.

sheets/fig NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☒ the description, pages NONE .

☒ the claims, Nos. NONE .

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE .

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the ~~Supplemental Box~~ Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

NONE

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/20478

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-146</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1-146</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-146</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

**2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS**

Claims 1-146 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4) because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a means for supporting histological tissue biopsy samples, and method comprising a microtome sectioning tissue supporting means that is sectioning, resists histological stains, resists degradation from solvents, from chemicals, and has means for maintaining the support means non-distractedly.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

NONE

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US98/20478

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : A61B 5/103

US CL : 600/562

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 422/102; 435/285, 310; 436/43, 46, 174, 176; 600/562

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4,985,206 A (BOWMAN et al.) 15 January 1991.	1-146
A	US 5,312,758 A (AHLQVIST) 17 May 1994.	1-146
A	US 5,665,398 A (McCORMICK) 09 September 1997.	1-146
A	US 5,650,327 A (COPELAND et al.) 22 July 1997.	1-146



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
*B* earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*A* document member of the same patent family
*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 DECEMBER 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

26 JAN 1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3590

Authorized officer

MAX HINDENBURG

Telephone No. (703) 308-3130

**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece			TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NZ	New Zealand		
CM	Cameroon			PL	Poland		
CN	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		